

## Message Text

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70

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 AID-20 EB-11 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 STR-08

OMB-01 CEA-02 COME-00 FRB-02 XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06

SIL-01 INT-08 FEA-02 SCI-06 DRC-01 /200 W

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R 191458Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7190

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABIDJAN 1259

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: EIND, ENRG, PFOR, IV

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER USHER ON UNGA SPECIAL SESSION

1. IVORY COAST FOREIGN MINISTER USHER HAS EXPRESSED TO ME (ON FEB 18) HIS HOPE THAT FORTHCOMING UNGA SPECIAL SESSION (1) WILL DEAL WITH PRIMARY PRODUCTS GENERALLY, NOT JUST PETROLEUM, AND (2) THAT SECY OF STATE KISSINGER WILL TAKE STRONG LEAD IN FAVOR OF ASSURING POOR COUNTRIES FAIR AND SUSTAINED PRICES FOR THEIR RAW MATERIAL EXPORTS. USHER THINKS SECRETARY IS IN EXCELLENT POSITION TO RESTORE US STANDING IN THIRD WORLD IN THIS REGARD.

2. USHER POINTS OUT THAT, WELL BEFORE AND APART FROM OIL CRISIS, US HAD ACQUIRED REPUTATION AT UNCTAD AND ELSEWHERE OF BEING ESSENTIALLY INDIFFERENT IF NOT HOSTILE TO VIEW OF THIRD WORLD RAW MATERIAL PRODUCERS, WHILE FRANCE HAS BEEN ABLE TO APEAR AS THEIR CHAMPION. SECRETARY KISSINGER, HOWEVER, HAS NOT PREVIOUSLY BEEN ASSOCIATED IN MINDS OF PRODUCERS WITH US ECONOMIC POLICIES, WHEREAS IN OTHER RESPECTS HE HAS ACQUIRED REPUTATION FOR NOTHING SHORT OF GENIUS FOR DIPLOMATIC SUCCESSES HE HAS SO FAR ACHIEVED. THUS HE HAS UNPARALLELED OPPORTUNITY TO RESTORE US LEADERSHIP IN  
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DEALING WITH ECONOMIC PROBLEMS DIVIDING DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING

WORLD.

3. USHER HAS OF COURSE IVORY COAST'S OWN DILEMMA IN MIND. ON ONE HAND IVORY COAST DEPENDS HEAVILY FOR ITS ECONOMIC HEALTH ON EXPORTS OF COFFEE, COCOA, TIMBER AND OTHER TROPICAL PRODUCTS. ITS ECONOMY IS HIGHLY SENSITIVE TO FLUCTUATIONS IN WORLD MARKET FOR THESE EXPORTS.

ON OTHER HAND IT HAS, LIKE SO MANY OTHERS, BEEN HURT BY RAPID INCREASE IN WORLD OIL PRICES AND IS FEELING NO GREAT SYMPATHY THESE DAYS, TO SAY THE LEAST, FOR ARAB OIL PRODUCERS.

4. WHILE NOT DIRECTLY CRITICIZING FRANCE, USHER MADE IT CLEAR HE HAD NO SYMPATHY FOR GO-IT-ALONE APPROACHES HITHERTO EMPLOYED BY WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES IN DEALING WITH ARABS. WEST'S MISTAKE, HE SAID, WAS TO DISPLAY WEAKNESS AND DIVISION IN CONFRONTING ARABS AT OUTBREAK OF OIL PANIC. AFRICANS HAD LEARNED SAME LESSON ABOUT ARABS, FOR EXAMPLE WHEN THEY EXPLOITED RECENT AFRICAN DISUNITY TO DICTATE OAU'S PRO-ARAB PRONOUNCEMENTS ON PALESTINE QUESTION.

5. ESCALATION OF OIL PRICES AND RESULTING INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTIES HAVE ALARMED IVORIANS ABOUT THREAT TO THEIR OWN ECONOMIC GROWTH AND USHER IS CLEARLY IN FAVOR OF RATIONAL INTERNATIONAL

EFFORT ENVISAGED BY US TO RESTORE EQUILIBRIUM. BUT HIS POINT IS THAT IVORY COAST AMONG MANY OTHER THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES WILL FIND IT MUCH EASIER TO SUPPORT US EFFORTS IF WE IN TURN SHOW DEGREE OF SYMPATHY TOWARD THEIR EXPORT INTERESTS HE FEELS HAS HITHERTO BEEN LACKING.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PETROLEUM, LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, RAW MATERIALS, EXPORTS, NONALIGNED NATIONS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, OILS, INFLATION, PRICE CONTROLS, ECONOMIC PROGRAMS, ECONOMIC RESOURCES, PRICES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 FEB 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** cunninfx  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FOREIGN MINISTER USHER ON UNGA SPECIAL SESSION  
**TAGS:** EIND, ENRG, PFOR, IV, UNGA, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (USHER)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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